

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (original) A method for producing a hypotensive agent containing an oligosaccharide that comprises at least one type of hexose and has at least one 1-6 bond, which comprises extracting a leguminous plant with water or an organic solvent.

19. (original) The method for producing the hypotensive agent of claim 18, which comprises extracting a leguminous plant with water or an organic solvent, and then concentrating the resulting extract.

20. (original) The method for producing the hypotensive agent of claim 18, wherein the leguminous plant is a black soybean.

21. (new) A method of treating a patient to reduce hypertension, comprising administering to said patient in need of said treatment, a hypotensive agent comprising an oligosaccharide having at least one hexose and at least one 1-6 bond.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the hexose is one or more selected from the group consisting of glucose, galactose, mannose, altrose, talose, allose, idose, gulose, fructose, psicose, tagatose, sorbose, mannitol, altritol, talitol, iditol, galactitol, allitol, gulitol and glucitol.

23. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the hexose is one or more selected from the group consisting of glucose, galactose, mannose, fructose, mannitol and gulitol.

24. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the hexose is one or more selected from the group consisting of glucose, galactose, mannose, and fructose.

25. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the oligosaccharide contains a constitutive unit of Glc(α 1-6)Glc, Glc(β 1-6)Glc, Gal(α 1-6)Glc, Gal(β 1-6)Gal, Glc(α 1-6)Glucitol, Glc(α 1-6)Mannitol or Glc (α 1-6)Fru.

26. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein the oligosaccharide contains a constitutive unit of Gal(α 1-6)Glc, Gal(β 1-6)Gal, Glc(α 1-6)Glucitol, Glc(α 1-6)Mannitol or Glc(α 1-6)Fru.

27. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the oligosaccharide contains a constitutive unit of Gal(β 1-6)Gal, Glc(α 1-6)Glucitol, Glc(α 1-6)Mannitol or Glc(α 1-6)Fru.

28. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the oligosaccharide consists of glucose and/or galactose and has at least one 1-6 bond.

29. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein all hexoses of the oligosaccharide bond by 1-6 bond.

30. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the oligosaccharide is a biose or a triose.

31. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the oligosaccharide is isomaltose, gentiobiose, melibiose, Gal(β 1-6)Gal, glucitol, mannitol or palatinose.

32. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the oligosaccharide is melibiose, Gal(β 1-6)Gal, glucitol, mannitol or palatinose.

33. (new) The method of claim 32, wherein the oligosaccharide is glucitol, mannitol or palatinose.

34. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the oligosaccharide is derived from leguminous plants.

35. (new) The method claim 34, wherein the oligosaccharide is derived from black soybeans.

36. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the oligosaccharide does not contain constitutive units of Glc(α 1-3)Fru and Glc(α 1-2B)Fru.

37. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the hexose is not raffinose.